

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

# VEHICLE INDUSTRY NEWS

## VIN 2002-16

**Subject : New California Certificate of Title and Salvage Certificate**

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### Background

In December 2002, the department will begin issuing new versions of the California Certificate of Title and the Salvage Certificate. The new versions (REV. 10/02) will simplify document recognition. See attachment.

**NOTE:** Previously issued California Certificates of Title and Salvage Certificates remain valid.

### New Features

#### Certificate of Title

- The front of the new Certificate of Title is pink with a blue border and a white opaque state seal.
- The back of the new Certificate of Title is blue.
- “VOID” appears on the new Certificate of Title, if photocopied.

#### Salvage Certificate

- The front of the new Salvage Certificate is yellow with a red border and a green state seal.
- The back of the new Salvage Certificate is green.
- The word “SALVAGE” in large outline letters is displayed across the bottom of the certificate.
- There are two reassignment sections on the back instead of three.

#### Shared Features

- The vehicle history (i.e. “brand”) information is prominently displayed within a red box in the upper right corner of the certificates.
- The certificates contain a warning banner printed in the right and left border that reads, “VOID WITHOUT BEAR WATERMARK. HOLD TO LIGHT TO VIEW.” The bear watermark appears down the right side of the document when backlit.

**Shared Features, continued**

- The certificates contain a custom-repeated pattern of micro-printed wording to expose erasures in the odometer statement areas.
- To expose chemical alterations, reactive agents are incorporated into the papers that produce various stains.

**Distribution**

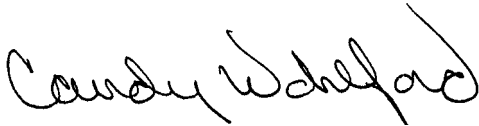
This memo was distributed in December 2002 to the following:

- Dealers
- Registration Services

**Contact**

Contact your local DMV field office regarding questions on processing transactions, or contact the DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo.

Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Candy Wohlford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

CANDY WOHLFORD, Deputy Director  
Communication Programs Division

[Attachment](#)